

1 1. A decoding device for decompressing an audio and/or video signal that
2 was compressed in accordance with a given compression method, comprising:
3 a program-controlled signal processor (5) which receives the compressed
4 audio or video signal and produces a decompressed audio or video signal under the
5 control of a decompression program;
6 a loadable program memory (6) which is connected to the signal
7 processor (5), for storing the decompression program; and
8 a management device (7) which is connected to the program memory (6)
9 and is controlled by the compressed audio or video signal; wherein the
10 management device (7) manages decompression programs which correspond to at
11 least two different compression methods in order to determine the respectively
12 used compression method from the compressed audio signal, to select the pertinent
13 decompression program and to load the decompression program into the program
14 memory (6), wherein
15 the management device (7) includes an access device (15, 16) via which
16 new decompression programs can be entered into the management device (7),
17 and/or old decompression programs can be deleted.

1 2. A decoding device as claimed in claim 1, in which the signal processor
2 (5) and the program memory (6) are located in a signal processor (20), and
3 wherein the management device (7) can load a decompression program into the
4 program memory (6).

1 3. A decoding device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the management
2 device (7) has information about which decompression program is stored in the
3 program memory (6), and only loads the decompression program to be loaded into
4 the program memory (6) if there is a difference between the stored decompression
5 program and the decompression program to be loaded.

1 4. A decoding device as claimed in claim 3, wherein at least the signal
2 processor (5) and the program memory (6) are integrated into a network.

1 5. A decoding device as claimed in claim 4, wherein other signal
2 processors (20) and other program memories (19) are integrated into the network.

1 6. A decoding device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the access device is
2 an interface (15, 16).

1 7. A decoding device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the access device is a
2 signal source that is also suitable for producing audio or video signals.

1 8. A decoding device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the management
2 device (7) has information about which decompression program is stored in the
3 program memory (6), and only loads the decompression program to be loaded into
4 the program memory (6) if there is a difference between the stored decompression
5 program and the decompression program to be loaded.

1 9. A decoding device as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least the signal
2 processor (5) and the program memory (6) are integrated into a network.

1 10. A decoding device as claimed in claim 9, wherein other signal
2 processors (20) and other program memories (19) are integrated into the network.

1 11. A decoding device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the access device is
2 an interface (15, 16).

1 12. A decoding device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the access device is a
2 signal source that is also suitable for producing audio or video signals.

1 13. An automobile audio system with at least one signal source (1, 2) which
2 produces compressed audio signals, a downstream signal processor (11, 12) and an
3 audio decoding device (5) to decompress an audio signal that was compressed in
4 accordance with a given compression method, comprising:

5 a program-controlled signal processor (5), which receives the
6 compressed audio signal and from it produces a decompressed audio signal under
7 control of a decompression program;

8 a loadable program memory (6) which is connected to the signal
9 processor (5) for storing the decompression program; and

10 a management device (7) which is connected to the program memory (6)
11 and is controlled by the compressed audio signal, and manages decompression
12 programs corresponding to at least two different compression methods, in order to
13 determine the respectively used compression method from the compressed audio
14 signal, to select the pertinent decompression program and to load the
15 decompression program into the program memory.

14. A decoding method for decompressing an audio and/or video signal that
was compressed in accordance with a given compression method, by means of a
signal processor (5) and a program memory (6) connected thereto,

wherein the respectively used compression method is determined from
the compressed audio or video signal, the pertinent decompression program is
selected and loaded into the program memory (6); and

wherein a decompressed audio or video signal is produced from the
compressed audio or video signal under the control of the decompression program
stored in the program memory (6).

15. A decoding method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the decompression
program already stored in the program memory (6) is determined, it is then
compared with a decompression program to be loaded, and if there is a difference
between the stored program and the decompression program to be loaded, the
latter decompression program is loaded into the program memory (6).